

House File 2267 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2267
BY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 563)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act related to civil service employees by providing cities
2 with the authority to eliminate state residency requirements
3 and modifying a city's authority to set distance or
4 travel-based residency requirements.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 400.17, subsection 3, Code 2016, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. a. Employees shall not be required to be a resident
4 of the city in which they are employed, but they shall become
5 a resident of the state within two years of such appointment
6 or the date employment begins and shall remain a resident of
7 the state during the remainder of employment. ~~However, cities~~
8 The state residency requirement under this paragraph "a" shall
9 not apply to employees of a city that has adopted an ordinance
10 to allow its employees to reside in another state and shall
11 not apply to an employee of a city that later repeals such an
12 ordinance if the employee resides in another state at the time
13 of the repeal.

14 b. Cities may set a reasonable maximum distance outside
15 of the corporate limits of the city, or a reasonable maximum
16 travel time, that police officers, fire fighters, and other
17 critical ~~municipal~~ city employees may live from their place
18 of employment. ~~Each An~~ employee residing outside the state
19 subject to a residency requirement based on distance or travel
20 time who does not meet that residency requirement on the date
21 of appointment or on the date employment begins shall take
22 reasonable steps to become a resident of the state meet the
23 requirement as soon as practicable following appointment or
24 beginning of employment, and a city may provide the employee up
25 to one year from the date of appointment or the date employment
26 begins to meet the residency requirement.

27 EXPLANATION

28 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
29 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

30 This bill relates to residency requirements for civil
31 service employees.

32 Under current law, city employees in Iowa are not required
33 to be a resident of the city in which they are employed, but
34 are required to become Iowa residents within two years of
35 appointment or employment and remain Iowa residents throughout

1 their term of employment. City employees residing outside the
2 state when initially employed are required to take reasonable
3 steps to become an Iowa resident as soon as practicable.
4 Current law also provides that cities may set a reasonable
5 maximum distance outside of the corporate limits of the city,
6 or a reasonable maximum travel time, that police officers, fire
7 fighters, and other critical municipal employees may live from
8 their place of employment.

9 The bill allows a city to adopt an ordinance to eliminate the
10 requirement that civil service employees obtain Iowa residency
11 within two years of employment and maintain Iowa residency
12 throughout the term of employment. If a city later repeals
13 such an ordinance, the bill provides that the state residency
14 restriction shall not apply to city employees residing in
15 another state at the time of the repeal.

16 The bill maintains current law allowing cities to set
17 residency requirements based on distance or travel time for
18 police, fire, and other critical employees, but provides that
19 such critical employees living outside the distance or travel
20 time limitations at the time of appointment or hiring must take
21 steps to meet the requirement as soon as practicable. The
22 bill also allows cities to provide such critical employees
23 with up to two years from the date of appointment or the date
24 employment begins to meet the residency requirement.